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BEIRUT 04837

ER58

ACTION: POL-1
 INFO: FAA-1 DAO-1 USIS-1 EAO-1 CONS-1 ECON-1 DCM-1 SCI-1 FCS-1 AMB-1

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 FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5077
 INFO RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 0018
 RUEHXK/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE
 BT
 CONFIDENTIAL BEIRUT 004837

PTER
 AMIA

FOR S/CT AND NEA/ARN

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PREL, PTER, LE
 SUBJECT: HIZBALLAH RESPONDS TO U.S. CLAIMS ON
 BUENOS AIRES BOMBING

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

2. ALL LEBANESE DAILIES CARRIED FRONT PAGE DENIAL BY A
 HIZBALLAH SPOKESMAN OF COMPLICITY IN THE BUENOS AIRES
 BOMBING FOLLOWING A STATEMENT BY S/CT DIRECTOR PHILIP
 WILCOX IN ARGENTINA.

3. AS REPORTED, THE SPOKESMAN SAID HIZBALLAH HAS NO
 NEED TO DENY THESE ACCUSATIONS SINCE ARGENTINE
 AUTHORITIES HAVE ALREADY AFFIRMED HIZBALLAH WAS NOT
 IMPLICATED IN THE EXPLOSION. HIZBALLAH, THE STATEMENT
 ADDS, DOES, HOWEVER, NEED TO DRAW THE PUBLIC'S
 ATTENTION TO THE SCOPE OF THESE ACCUSATIONS AND THE
 MALICIOUS ATTACK THAT HAS BEEN LEVIED AGAINST ITS
 HONORABLE RESISTANCE. AMERICAN DIPLOMACY, ALONG WITH
 PARTIES IN THE REGION, IS TRYING TO PUT AN END TO THIS
 RESISTANCE AND HIZBALLAH OPERATIONS. HIZBALLAH ASKS IF
 AMERICAN OFFICIALS, WHO CLAIM TO BE WORKING FOR A
 PEACE SETTLEMENT, ARE PRESSURING THE ZIONISTS TO END
 THEIR OCCUPATION. WOULD NOT THIS GIVE THE AMERICANS
 MORE CREDIBILITY? BATTLE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: ADOLPH H EISNER
 DATE/CASE ID: 12 MAR 2010 200906077

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